

In the Claims

1 1. [Original] A method comprising:
2 determining, by a processor within a peripheral device, that an amount of a
3 consumable associated with the peripheral device has decreased below a
4 predetermined threshold; and
5 transmitting an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of
6 the consumable.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting comprises
2 transmitting the email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting comprises
2 transmitting the email to a personal computer associated with the peripheral device,
3 and further comprising transmitting a second email from the personal computer to a
4 vendor web site across a firewall.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device
2 comprises a hard copy output engine and determining comprises determining when a
3 toner level in the hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low
4 threshold.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device
2 comprises a hard copy output engine, and further comprising:
3 determining, by the processor within the hard copy output engine, when a
4 predetermined work threshold has been reached; and
5 transmitting an email to request periodic service in response to determining.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device
2 comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an embedded
3 web server, and further comprising:
4 determining, by the web server, when a predetermined work threshold has
5 been reached; and
6 transmitting an email to request periodic service in response to determining.

1 7. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device
2 comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an embedded
3 web server, wherein determining comprises determining when a toner level in a hard
4 copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold and wherein
5 transmitting comprises transmitting the email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 8. [Original] An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable
2 medium having computer readable code embodied therein that is configured to
3 cause a processor contained in a peripheral device to:
4 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral
5 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and
6 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the
7 consumable.

1 9. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer
2 readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device
3 to transmit the email comprises computer readable code configured to cause the
4 processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the email to a vendor web
5 site across a firewall.

1 10. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer
2 readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device
3 to transmit comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor
4 contained in the peripheral device to transmit the email to a personal computer
5 associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the personal computer
6 to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 11. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the computer readable
3 code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to
4 determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor
5 contained in the peripheral device to determine when a toner level in the hard copy
6 output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold.

1 12. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine, and wherein the computer readable
3 code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to
4 determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor
5 contained in the hard copy output engine to determine when a predetermined work
6 threshold has been reached and the computer readable code configured to cause the
7 processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit comprises computer
8 readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the hard copy output
9 engine to transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the
10 predetermined work threshold.

1 13. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an
3 embedded web server and further comprising computer readable code configured to
4 cause the embedded web server to:
5 determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and
6 transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the
7 predetermined work threshold.

1 14. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an
3 embedded web server and wherein the computer readable code configured to cause
4 the processor contained in the peripheral device to determine comprises computer
5 readable code configured to cause the embedded web server to determine when a
6 toner level in a hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold
7 and wherein the computer readable code configured to cause the processor
8 contained in the peripheral device to transmit comprises computer readable code
9 configured to cause the embedded web server to transmit the email to a vendor web
10 site across a firewall.

1 15. [Original] A computer implemented control system for a hard copy
2 output engine, the system comprising:
3 memory configured to store a software module; and
4 processing circuitry configured to employ the software module to:
5 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with a
6 peripheral device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and
7 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional
8 supplies of the consumable.

1 16. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module
3 to:
4 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral
5 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and
6 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the
7 consumable.

1 17. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the
3 processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web server, and
4 the embedded web server is further configured to:
5 determine when a toner level in the hard copy output engine has decreased
6 below a toner low threshold; and
7 transmit an email across a firewall to a vendor web site to order additional
8 toner in response to determining.

1 18. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the
3 processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web server, and
4 the embedded web server is further configured to transmit the email to a personal
5 computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the personal
6 computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 19. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile
3 machines, photocopiers and printers and wherein the processing circuitry and
4 memory together comprise an embedded web server.

1 20. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module
3 to:

4 determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and
5 transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the
6 predetermined work threshold.

1 21. [Original] A computer instruction signal embodied in a carrier wave
2 carrying instructions that when executed by a processor cause the processor to:

3 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral
4 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and

5 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the
6 consumable.

1 22. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the
2 computer instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the
3 peripheral device to transmit the email comprises a computer instruction signal
4 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the
5 email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 23. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the
2 computer instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the
3 peripheral device to transmit comprises a computer instruction signal configured to
4 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the email to a
5 personal computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the
6 personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 24. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the computer
3 instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral
4 device to determine comprises a computer instruction signal configured to cause the
5 processor contained in the peripheral device to determine when a toner level in the
6 hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold.

1 25. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine, and wherein the computer
3 instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral
4 device to determine comprises a computer instruction signal configured to cause the
5 processor contained in the hard copy output engine to determine when a
6 predetermined work threshold has been reached and the computer instruction signal
7 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit
8 comprises a computer instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained
9 in the hard copy output engine to transmit an email to request periodic service in
10 response to reaching the predetermined work threshold.

1 26. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises
3 an embedded web server and further comprising a computer instruction signal
4 configured to cause the embedded web server to:

5 determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and
6 transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the
7 predetermined work threshold.

1 27. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises
3 an embedded web server and wherein the computer instruction signal configured to
4 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to determine comprises a
5 computer instruction signal configured to cause the embedded web server to
6 determine when a toner level in a hard copy output engine has decreased below a
7 toner low threshold and wherein the computer instruction signal configured to cause

8 the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit comprises a computer
9 instruction signal configured to cause the embedded web server to transmit the
10 email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 28. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the email is communicated
2 directly from the peripheral device to a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 29. [New] The method of claim 5, wherein the transmitting the email
2 comprises transmitting the email directly from the peripheral device to a provider
3 that performs the periodic service.

1 30. [New] The method of claim 7, wherein the vendor web site comprises
2 a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.